

THE
 Lord Haverſham's
 S P E E C H

IN THE
 Houſe of P E E R S.
 ON

Thursday, November 15. 1705.

MY LORDS,

IT may perhaps be expected, ſince I moved you the *State of the Nation*, that I ſhould ſay ſomewhat to you upon this Occaſion: And tho' I never laboured under *more Difficulties* than I do at preſent, yet being Conſcious to my Self of a *Heart as full of Loyalty and Duty to Her Maſteſty, and Zeal for Her Service as is poſſible for any Subject to have*; and knowing that *The beſt Way of preſerving Liberty of Speech in Parliament, is to make uſe of it*; I will mention Three or Four General Heads to your Lordſhips, and ſpeak to them with a great deal of Freedom and Plainneſs.

The firſt thing I ſhall ſpeak to, is the *Preſent Confederate War*, in which we are engaged: And becauſe the beſt Way of Judging what we may reaſonably expect for the future, is to conſider the Actions that are paſſ'd, give me leave a little to take notice to your Lordſhips of the *Operations of the laſt Campaign*: I ſhall not ſay much of our *Forcing the French Lines, and our beating the French Troops afterwards*, (tho' that was a very Great and Brave Action) but becauſe there was ſuch a *mixture of Victory and Miſfortune*; and that this is ſuch a Chequer'd Piece, I purpoſely forbear taking further Notice of it.

But

But there were two other Actions, which I think take in your whole Campagne, **The March of our Army to the Moselle**, and the **Business of Overisch**: In both which, give me leave to say, (not to give it a harder Term) *I think We were not used as We might have reasonably expected.* Our General, with a great deal of Conduct, cover'd Prince Lewis of Baden's Army; nor can it be doubted he might easily have joined Us if he had pleased, without the least danger from the French; which if he had done, by the best Account I could ever get, (and I think I have a very True one) We had been at least *Five and twenty thousand stronger than the French there*; but being Disappointed of being joined by Prince Lewis, and of the Assistance We expected from him, that Great Design proved Abortive.

The next was the **Business of Overisch** where by the Conduct of My Lord Duke of Marlborough, We had a fair Opportunity of putting an End to the War at once; **The Dutch held our Hand, and would not let Us give the Deciding Blow.**

Thus ended your Campagne, tho' it began with more promising Hopes of Success than this next I believe will: You had then an Enemy to deal with, *whose Counsels were distracted, whose Troops were broke, and the Courage of his Army sunk.*

From all these give me leave to conclude, That it is neither Men nor Money, Courage nor Conduct, that are the only things necessary to carry on a Successful Confederate War.

Those who Command your Army, are Men of that Bravery, and every Common Souldier hath so much Courage, that not equal Number of Men in the World, I think, can stand before them; but let our Supplies be never so full and speedy, let our Management be never so great and frugal, yet if it be our Misfortune to have Allies that are as slow and backward as We are zealous and forward, that hold our Hands, and suffer us not to take any Opportunity that Offers, that are coming into the Field when we are going into Winter Quarters, I cannot see what it is we are reasonably to expect.

The next Thing I shall take the liberty to speak to, is the Point of **Trade**: Every one sees how our Merchands go off daily, and how low the Trade of this Nation at present is. I know, My Lords, there is a Word we are very fond of, which We call the **Balance of Power**, but the Dutch, who are a very Wise People, have a double View, and take as much Care of the **Balance of Trade**, as they do of the **Balance of Power**; and are as fearful of our Power at Sea, as of the Power of France by Land. My Lords, the best Knowledge of Things is by their Causes; 'Tis Trade begets Wealth, as Wealth begets Power; and it seems very hard

hard for *England*, that *while the Dutch live at Peace under the Protection of our Arms*, We, if we will have any part of Trade with them, *must have it under the Protection of their Posses* : But it will be yet much harder, if, after their having the Advantage of a *Trading War*, we should make a *Tradeless Peace*.

I know, my Lords, *The Dutch generally complain they are very Poor* ; but give me leave to say, I cannot see how they have been *out of Pocket one Shilling since this War*, for they have more by *Remittances*, and *Money from England*, than all the *Money that goes out of their Country to Portugal, Savoy, and the German Princes*.

There is one Thing more w^{ch} I take to be of the greatest Importance to us all, 'tis this I had chiefly in my Intention, and with which I shall conclude what I have to say.

But before I come to it, give me leave to take Notice of one Thing to your Lordships. My Lords, *'Tis the Happiness of England, and that which ever did, and ever will keep the greatest Ministers in Awe. That by the Law and Custom of Parliament, the meanest Member of either House has an undoubted Right to Debate on any Subject, and to Speak his Thoughts with all Freedom, without being liable to be call'd in Question by any Person whatever, till the Parliament it self hath first taken Notice of them.* Thiss is grounded on the greatest Equity and Reason, because *that which concerns all, should be debated by all* : Not is it possible for a Parliament to Debate, or come to a clear Resolution on any Question, or to give any Advice to Her Majesty, as they ought, without this Freedom. I have good Authority to justify what I say ; Sir Robert Atking [Fol. 54.] tells us in his Treatise of the Power and Privilege of Parliaments, of the Case of one Sir Thomas Haxey, in the Time of King Richard II. who having deliver'd a Petition to the King, with which he was displeas'd, *the King sent to the Speaker to know who it was that deliver'd that Petition* ; By which (says Sir Robert) it is apparent *the King cannot take notice of any thing done in Parliament, (he names the House of Commons) but as it is represented to him by the House it self.*

Having said this, give me leave to read to your Lordships a Paragraph of Her Majesty's Speech to her last Parliament last Year : " My Lords and Gentlemen, We have, by the Blessing of God, a fair Prospect of this Great and Desirable End, if We do not disappoint it by Our own unreasonable Humour and Animosity, the fatal Effects of which We have so narrowly escaped in this Session, that it ought to be a sufficient Warning against any dangerous Experiments for the future.

I shall not go about to shew the Grammatical Construction of

these Words, but chuse rather to say, That as we Enjoy many Blessings under Her Majesty's happy Government, so I hope we shall have this too, *That Her Majesty will never give Ear to any secret and private Information, but as it comes to Her in a Parliamentary Way by the Houses themselves.*

The last Thing, my Lords, is that which I take to be of the greatest Concernment to us all, both Queen and People : I love always to speak very plain, and shall do so in this Point.

My Lords, *I think there can be nothing more for the Safety of the Queen, for the Preservation of our Constitution, for the Security of the Church, and for the Advantage of Us all, than if the Presumptive Heir to the Crown, according to the Act of Settlement in the Protestant Line, should be here amongst us ; 'tis very plain that nothing can be more for the Security of any Throne, than to have a Number of Successors round about it, whose Interest is always to Defend the Possessor from any Danger, and prevent any Attempt against him, and revenge any Injury done him.* Is there any Man, my Lords, who doubts that if the Duke of Gloucester had been no alive, Her Majesty had not been more Secure than she is ? We cannot think of that Misfortune without the greatest Grief, but yet we are not to neglect our own Safety ; and tho' a Successor be not the Child of the Prince, yet is he the Child of the Queen and the People.

Besides, my Lords, the **Heats and Differences** which are among us, make it very necessary that we should have the *Presumptive Heir residing here : The Duty and Respect we pay Her Majesty, and the Authority of the Law, can hardly keep us in Peace and Union amongst our Selves at present ; what then may we not fear, when these Bonds shall ever happen to be broken ?*

And would it not be a great Advantage to the Church, for the *Presumptive Heir* to be Personally acquainted with the Reverend the Prelates ? Nay, would it not be an Advantage to all England, that when ever the Successor comes over, he should not bring a Flood of Foreigners along with him, to eat up and devour the good of the Land ?

I will say no more to your Lordships, but conclude with this Motion.

That an Humble Address be Presented to Her Majesty by this House, That Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to Invite the Presumptive Heir to the Crown of England, according to the Acts of Parliament made for Settling the Succession of the Crown in the Protestant Line, into this Kingdom, to reside here.

